

REMARKS

Applicants have carefully studied the outstanding Office Action. The present amendment is intended to place the application in condition for allowance and is believed to overcome all of the objections and rejections made by the Examiner. Favorable reconsideration and allowance of the application are respectfully requested.

Claims **2 - 3, 10 - 12, 14 - 15**, and **18 - 57** have been canceled without prejudice. Claims **1, 13**, and **16** have been amended to better define the present invention. No new matter has been introduced. Claims **1, 4 - 9, 13, 16**, and **17** are presented for examination.

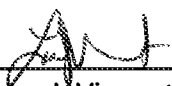
In Paragraph 28 of the Office Action, the Examiner has indicated that claim **15** would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including the limitations of the base and intervening claims. Applicants have accordingly amended claim **1** to include all of the limitations of claims **1, 10, 11, 12, 14**, and **15**.

For the foregoing reasons, applicants respectfully submit that the applicable objections and rejections have been overcome.

Respectfully submitted,

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